

## Message Text

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12

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 SAM-01 ACDA-19

DRC-01 /136 W

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O R 020717Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1803 IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 7262

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IN, PK

SUBJ: INDIAN REACTION TO POSTPONEMENT OF INDO-PAK TALKS

1. DELHI PRESS JUNE 2 REPORTS INDIA RECEIVED LETTER FROM PAKISTAN  
JUNE 1 POSTPONING SCHEDULED JUNE 10 TALKS ON RESUMPTION OF POSTAL  
AND TELECOMMUNICATINS UNTIL "SUCH TIME AS THE ATMOSPHERE BECOMES  
MORE FAVORABLE." THE TALKS WERE TO BE THE FIRST STEP TOWARD  
NORMALIZATION OF INDO-PAK RELATIONS FOLLOWING THE APRIL TRIPARTITE  
AGREEMENT ON RETURN OF THE LAST 195 POWS. PAKISTAN REPORTEDLY  
CITED AS A REASON FOR THE POSTPONEMENT THE INDIAN NUCLEAR TEST, WHICH  
HAD "COME AS A SHOCK TO THE PEOPLE OF PAKISTAN." (PRESS ADDS THAT  
INTERNATIONAL WIRE SERVICES QUOTED A PAKISTANI SPOKESMAN IN  
ISLAMABAD AS SAYING THE TALKS COULD BE HELD  
ONLY AFTER PAKISTAN GETS GUARANTEES FOR SECURITY AND PROTECTION.)

2. INDIAN OFFICIALS BRIEFING THE PRESS HERE REFERRED TO THE PAKISTANI  
REASON FOR POSTPONEMENT AS AN "EXCUSE" OR "ALIBI." THEY ALLEGED THAT  
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EARLIER PAKISTANI FOOTDRAGGING ABOUT THE TALKS, E.G. WHEN PAKISTAN

CLAIMED IT COULD NOT DISCUSS SUCH SUBJECTS BEFORE THE RETURN OF THE 195 POWS; SHOWED THAT THE NUCLEAR TEST WAS MERELY A PRETEXT FOR THE POSTPONEMENT OF TALKS ABOUT WHICH PAKISTAN HAD NEVER BEEN ENTHUSIASTIC. THEY ARGUED THAT MRS. GANDHI'S LETTER TO BHUTTO AFTER THE BLAST SHOULD HAVE REASSURED HIM ABOUT INDIAN INTENTIONS.

3. A TIMES OF INDIA REPORT SAYS THAT THE PAKISTANI ACTION HAS "STRENGTHENED SUSPICION HERE ABOUT ITS COMMITMENT TO THE SIMLA AGREEMENT." IT IS "ANOTHER DISINGENUOUS ATTEMPT BY PAKISTAN TO KEEP ALIVE ON ANY PRETEXT THE ATMOSPHERE OF HOSTILITY AS A DIVERSIONARY TACTIC TO MEET THE MOUNTING DOMESTIC PROBLEMS."  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, SIMLA AGREEMENT, POW RETURN, NUCLEAR TESTS, MEETINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 02 JUN 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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